## CITY NEWS DESK

## **Permits Online**

oing business with the City of Redmond just keeps getting easier! In June, the City launched Permits Online: contractors can now apply for simple permits - such as electrical and plumbing permits - from their desktops.

"Redmond has always worked hard to improve its customer service," remarked Roberta Lewandowski, the City's Planning Director and one of the catalysts for the new permit online feature. "Permits online is another effort to make our customer service even better by tapping the limitless possibilities of the web."

The new feature offers online applications for the following simple permits (permits that don't require plan review):

- Commercial Electrical Permits
- Commercial Low Voltage Electrical Permits
- Residential Electrical Permits
- Residential Low Voltage Electrical Permits
- Residential Mechanical Permits
- Residential Plumbing Permits

To get started, visit the City's website at www.redmond.gov and look for Simple Permits Online in the drop-down At Your E-Service menu. To apply for permits that are not available through the online permit system, please visit the City's Permit Center, City Hall, 15670 NE 85 Street, Redmond, first floor. Hours are 9 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday.

## **Tourism Promotion Fund**

he City invites public or private organizations to apply for funding for programs that support tourism development and promotion projects in Redmond. The grants are available through the Tourism Promotion Fund, which was authorized by Council in 1998. Applications for the next round of funding will be accepted through September 27, 2004. The program is funded by a one percent (1%) sales tax on the rental of hotel and motel rooms.

The purpose of the fund is to support organizations or groups that promote tourism in Redmond. State law defines tourism promotion as "activities and expenditures designed to increase tourism, including but not limited to advertising, publicizing, or otherwise distributing information for the purpose of attracting and welcoming tourists:

developing strategies
to expand tourism;
operating tourism
promotion agencies;
and special
events and
festivals



Public or private organizations with the demonstrated ability to accomplish the

proposed project(s) are invited to apply for the funds. These may be cultural, historical, heritage, educational and community organizations, museums, galleries, chambers of commerce, and





Derby Days is a recipient of Tourism Fund

visitors information bureaus. Eligibility of sponsors and projects is defined broadly to encourage wide participation and innovative proposals.

Qualifying applications will be evaluated on a competitive basis using the official Tourism Promotion funding criteria recommended by the Hotel-Motel Tax Advisory Committee and approved by the Redmond City Council.

The application deadline is Monday, September 27 and awards will be recommended to City Council in October 2004. For more information, call 425-556-2441 or send e-mail to jgoren@redmond.gov.